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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/578,167	05/04/2006	Martin Missbach	33509 US-PCT	4627
1055	7590	11/12/2008	EXAMINER	
NOVARTIS			HENLEY III, RAYMOND J	
CORPORATE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ONE HEALTH PLAZA 104/3			1614	
EAST HANOVER, NJ 07936-1080				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/578,167	Applicant(s) MISSBACH ET AL.
	Examiner Raymond J. Henley III	Art Unit 1614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(o).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 04 May 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 - 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 - 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 - 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
 - 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 - 6) Other: _____
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

CLAIMS 1-12 ARE PRESENTED FOR EXAMINATION

Applicants' Preliminary Amendment filed May 4, 2006 has been received and entered into the application. Accordingly, the claims and specification have been amended as indicated by Applicants.

Claim Objection

Claim 11 is objected to because it depends from itself. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejection - 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 4-9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claims are not directed to a particular method, use or composition as provided for in 35 U.S.C. § 101, but rather a multiple of methods, uses or compositions.

Appropriate correction is required such that the claims are directed to a particular statutory class of invention.

Also, claims 2, 4-9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed recitation of a use, without setting forth any steps involved in the process, results in an improper definition of a process, i.e., results in a claim which is not a proper process claim under 35 U.S.C. 101. See for example *Ex parte Dunki*, 153 USPQ 678 (Bd.App. 1967) and *Clinical Products, Ltd. v. Brenner*, 255 F. Supp. 131, 149 USPQ 475 (D.D.C. 1966).

Claim Rejection - 35 USC § 112, (Second Paragraph)

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

I Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite in that it fails to point out what is included or excluded by the claim language. This claim is an omnibus type claim because therein it is set forth that the subject matter sought for patent protection is “All novel compounds, processes, pharmaceutical compositions, methods and uses substantially described with particular reference to the Examples.”. Also, in claim 9, the term “e.g.” makes it unclear as to whether that which follows represents a controlling limitation.

The Examiner is unable to ascertain the metes and bounds of the claimed subject matter.

Further, “The primary purpose of this requirement of definiteness of claim language is to ensure that the scope of the claims is clear so the public is informed of the boundaries of what constitutes infringement of the patent. A secondary purpose is to provide a clear measure of what applicants regard as the invention so that it can be determined whether the claimed invention meets all the criteria for patentability and whether the specification meets the criteria of 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph with respect to the claimed invention.”, (see MPEP § 2173).

II Further, claims 1-12 are rejected as indefinite because the term “severe” as in the claimed expression “severe form of bone loss diseases” is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. In particular, “severe” does not particularly point out the degree of bone loss disease that a given person may suffer and still be considered a “severe” bone loss disease as intended by Applicants. Applicants have failed to provide any specific definition for this term in the present specification. Lacking such a definition, the skilled artisan would not be reasonably apprised of

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the metes and bounds of the subject matter for which Applicants seek patent protection. Rather, a subjective interpretation of the claimed language would be required. However, as such is deemed inconsistent with the tenor and express language of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, the claims are deemed properly rejected.

III Further, claims 1, 4-9 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential steps, such omission amounting to a gap between the steps. See MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted step or steps is/are the actual administration of the intended compound to the intended host.

IV Finally, Claims 2, 4-9 and 12 are rejected indefinite because the claims provide for the use of the recited active agent, but, since the claim does not set forth any steps involved in the method/process, it is unclear what method/process Applicants are intending to encompass. A claim is indefinite where it merely recites a use without any active, positive steps delimiting how this use is actually practiced.

Rejections Based on Art

Due to the non-statutory and indefinite nature of the claimed subject, as explained above, the Examiner is unable to formulate a cogent grounds of rejection based on 35 U.S.C. § 102/103. Upon correction of the claims such that statutory, clear subject matter is set forth in the claims, the Examiner will provide any grounds of rejection based on art as appropriate.

The art cited on the attached form PTO-892 has been included to show the general state of the art.

None of the claims are currently in condition for allowance.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raymond J. Henley III whose telephone number is 571-272-0575. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm Eastern Time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ardin H. Marschel can be reached on 571-272-0718. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Raymond J Henley III/
Primary Examiner
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October 31, 2008